

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP01/01213

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int.Cl<sup>7</sup> G06F3/12

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Int.Cl<sup>7</sup> G06F3/12, H04L12/28

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

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 Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1971-2001 Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho 1996-2001

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	JP, 7-129337, A (Fuji Xerox Co., Ltd.), 19 May, 1995 (19.05.95) (Family: none)	1,10
A	Par. Nos. [0023] to [0061]; Figs. 1 to 3	2~9
Y	JP, 11-220490, A (Fuji Xerox Co., Ltd.), 10 August, 1999 (10.08.99) (Family: none)	1,10
A	Par. Nos. [0027] to [0065]; Figs. 1 to 4	2~9
A	EP, 851384, A (CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA), 01 July, 1998 (01.07.98) & JP, 10-240461, A	1~10
A	US, 6160631, A (BROTHER KOGYA KABUSHIKI KAISHA), 12 December, 2000 (12.12.00) & JP, 10-320329, A & JP, 10-320311, A & EP, 1068541, A	1~10
A	JP, 11-289415, A (Toshiba Corporation), 19 October, 1999 (19.10.99) (Family: none)	9

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☐ See patent family annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance  
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 "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means  
 "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

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 "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone  
 "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art  
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Date of the actual completion of the international search  
 11 May, 2001 (11.05.01)

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 22 May, 2001 (22.05.01)

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 Japanese Patent Office

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